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ABSTRACT

This book makes the case for preserving integrated, holistic reading programs, debunking the belief in one-size-fits-all instruction and taking readers inside classrooms to demonstrate progressive, meaning-centered teaching. The book offers easy-to-use strategies that build upon the life experiences and language that children bring with them to school. Most important, it expands upon the reading practices of Luke and Freebody's Four Resources Model--code breaker, text participant, text user, and text analyst--and details many techniques for developing these practices through holistic integrated learning. In preparation for today's world, children need more from their reading programs than just learning how to break the code. They need to engage with all reading practices, especially critical literacy. With tips on physically arranging classrooms, techniques for effectively grouping children, as well as advice on organizing class time, the book ensures that teachers have the tools to tailor their reading programs to the lives of the children they teach. Each of the book's nine chapters includes references. (NKA)